

**34. Received October 1, 2021**

**Name:** George Carlisle

**Comment:** I would like to hear the reasons we need to do a public private partnership. Gov't is not a business! Regardless, I'm willing to listen to the rationale for this model applied to the library and the long-term consequences. Personally, I'm for home ownership not more apt. rentals/rent seekers. Renting is not the solution to the world's problems.

**35. Received October 1, 2021**

**Name:** Linda Fu

**Comment:**

I am in favor of the county renovating the existing library with the available budget. With the Chevy Chase Lake development, our roads and schools will already be stressed, reducing the quality of life for residents. Mixed use development of the library property will add to traffic congestion and over-crowded schools. The county should exert fiscal discipline and work with the budget we have rather than look for extra funds for a more elaborate renovation. Prior to the pandemic, my family would visit the CC or Bethesda library every other week. The CC library may not be fancy, but we were there for the books.

**36. Received October 1, 2021**

**Name:** Gregory Koblentz

**Comment:** The country should emphasize quality of life and services for current residents by renovating the existing library instead of increasing congestion in the town by creating more high-volume residential units on Connecticut Ave. The Chevy Chase Lake development is already set to saturate our local roads and access to I-495 with even more cars and our schools with

even more students that they can barely handle. The renovation needs for Chevy Chase library are not so extensive that they justify giving developers even more land under the guise of a public-private partnership.

**37. Received October 2, 2021**

**Name:** Elizabeth Spencer

**Comment:** I support the need for more housing especially near transit, however I am a 50-year neighborhood resident and Chevy Chase Library patron and I urge you to make short drop-ins to the library easy with at-grade parking. Most of us from the neighborhood can not walk to the library, and underground parking may be a barrier to many who would otherwise continue to take advantage of this treasured resource.

**38. Received October 5, 2021**

**Name:** Jeanine Derr

**Comment:** I am concerned that a public/private partnership with retail and/or residential facilities may impact the community by making the library seem and feel less open and available to ALL members of the community. It seems like a complete overhaul with retail/residential facilities would also entail a longer construction time, thus taking the library out of action for a longer period of time.

### 39. Received October 7, 2021

**Name:** Alicia Abell

**Comment:** I am strongly opposed to any major of the library. Right now, elderly residents and toddlers have easy parking when taking home library books. The traffic on Connecticut Ave near the library is already terrible as is and I would hate to see more housing go up that makes it worse. I don't believe the community needs a huge library (we can go to the Library of Congress, any number of universities or other bigger MCPL branches if we do). My view would be to simply bring the current building up to code.

### 40. Received October 10, 2021

**Name:** Julie Campbell

**Comment:**

Please consider two important blocks that use the library; young mothers and seniors. I met several mothers that became long term friends at the reading hours that were always crowded. I recommend moving to a five day, twice a day reading hour as some kids are morning nappers and others afternoon nappers. Access is also important for both groups with strollers, younger siblings, etc all gather at the same time. Maybe a wide ramp to the basement instead of elevator and stairs. Since things like Barnes and Noble have closed in Bethesda, there are fewer places to go with small children before they reach school age and you begin to meet other mothers. It was really hard as a work from home mom to meet people and it was a lifeline.

Also, there are more young seniors in the area that could use a place to meet other folks, so consider some programming for early retirees. Thanks!

#### 41. Received October 10, 2021

**Name:** Megan Hall

**Comment:**

Very much in support of Option 1. DC has done a wonderful job with its libraries. This should not be a mixed use space, rather the county should develop a community center around the library. The library is a wonderful resource for our family. We use the children's section extensively. We also enjoy the cultural events and the ability to play a game or sit in the children's area and enjoy a book with the librarian. There is always ample parking. It is a quiet and restful and safe space for people to gather. The county does a great job maintaining the atmosphere. Outdoor areas that could be used by residents and a playground would be very welcome. There is plenty of private space coming online soon just a short way down the street on Connecticut Ave. We need to preserve the area for the community and not increase foot traffic with retail or apartments. Certainly private management would not be welcome. The county does a great job managing the CC library and other community spaces in the area. My child loves the small town, community focused, not shiny and new feeling of this library. It is safe and functional. It is slow paced. That is what our family and kids need at the library, a place of respite and learning.

#### 42. Received October 11, 2021

**Name:** Peter Sharfman

**Comment:**

The mixed-use plan would have two major drawbacks: (1) Further increasing the population density and hence the traffic in a place where the traffic already overwhelms Connecticut Ave; (2) losing surface parking would make a quick stop at the library much more time-consuming.

**43. Received October 12, 2021**

**Name:** Bettina Silber

**Comment:** I am strongly in favor of renovating the existing Chevy Chase Library and strongly opposed to turning it into a multi-purpose development. The hundreds of additional apartments already built or in the process of being built in place of the shopping center at Connecticut Ave. and Manor Road will be a traffic nightmare — the last thing we need is the present library adding to the problem.

**44. Received October 12, 2021**

**Name:** Ann F Joseph

**Comment:** I am opposed to adding residential apartments at this time..there is a large building project just a few blocks away, an apartment house next door, and a senior residence across the street. Traffic on Connecticut Ave is already terrible. The library was renovated just a few years ago...I think that additions that serve the community are fine. a small cafe, other meeting or class rooms for pre-school or after school activities, as well as senior citizen involvement would be fine. Thanks for accepting comments.

**45. Received October 13, 2021**

<b>Name:</b>	Michael Kelleher
<b>Comment:</b>	Please preserve the library and the open space that surrounds it. It is a haven for the community, and a long-term resource that should not be despoiled in pursuit of more county tax revenue.

**46. Received October 13, 2021**

<b>Name:</b>	Mary K. Clifford
<b>Comment:</b>	An additional 4000 sq. ft. seems very little compensation for having our lovely little library swallowed by a high-rise. In addition, the attendant traffic increase inflicted on already-clogged Connecticut Avenue would be problematic even without the flood that will come once the whole new mini-town at Chevy Chase Lake opens. Please do not allow Chevy Chase to drift any further towards Bethesda-style development. Keep our friendly, accessible, beloved library as it stands.

**47. Received October 14, 2021**

<b>Name:</b>	Marylin Schwartz
<b>Comment:</b>	<p>The library is an asset to our community. Putting it as part of a development will take away our ability to continue teaching children to enjoy reading. It will become hard for the older generation to easily get there.</p> <p>PLEASE leave a spot of educational enjoyment as its own building.</p>

Public-private always gives the private an an advantage over community. After all they are in it to make money

**48. Received October 14, 2021**

**Name:** Jacqueline Coolidge

**Comment:**

I have been very happy with Chevy Chase library, and hope it can continue to operate as it has for long into the future.

I am extremely leery of "public-private partnerships" for most public services, as I've seen that, in most instances, promises are NOT kept (there are always excuses available) and the private partner will always prioritize profitability over public service. They will cut corners wherever possible including cutting public access (or convenience or comfort).

I understand the stand-alone renovation may prove to be more expensive. I have consistently voted for resources for county government, even when that raises my own tax bills. Please do not rely on the private sector to solve public problems.

**49. Received October 16, 2021**

**Name:** Maureen Donnelly

**Comment:**

I am not in favor of a mixed use or public/private mixed use project at the site of the Chevy Chase Library.

1) It is a terrible location for more development. (I live close by and already feel I am a prisoner in my home any time before 11AM and after 2:30pm weekdays.)

2) I am a major user of the library. If such development occurs, I won't be able to use the library

because of the limits to getting there and parking there. (It seems odd that I would have to take out only one or two books at a time because I couldn't carry more than that for the 2 or 3 miles I'd have to walk.)

3) We should not be renovating unless we the public can afford to pay for it.

#### **50. Received October 16, 2021**

**Name:** Carolyn Calkins

**Comment:**

We live right next to the Chevy Chase Library and depend on it a great deal for borrowing books and internet services. Our first message to you is that whatever it takes to keep the library branch open in the same location would be acceptable to us since we know the county has to consider expenses; other county branches have gotten a lot of money for updates, so we hope that our neighborhood branch would receive similar consideration. We would be happy with the same branch being renovated/remodeled as it is, with no larger building complex built in a public/private arrangement, if the renovated building could be done in a way to make it safe for another 20 or more years; but, if the public/private arrangement is the best way to ensure the branch stays in the same place then adding retail and residential elements to the library building would be fine, too. As long as the branch stays here, for the indefinite future, we will be happy.

#### **51. Received October 16, 2021**

**Name:** Roy Abreu

**Comment:**

Three comments:

1. The library "Refurbishment Option" should not preclude the option to modestly enlarge the library to accommodate ongoing and future population growth.
2. In the interest of transparency, decision makers should provide the community, in advance, with the criteria that they will use to evaluate the various options. This is commonly done in government



procurement solicitation. I am particularly interested in knowing whether, if a significant majority (say 60+%) of respondents vote in favor of a particular option, will that majority opinion determine the outcome?

3. And most importantly (because this is the core service that libraries are established to provides), available library material (books, magazines, etc.) should be expanded and machinery (computers, etc.) should be regularly replaced so that the technology is of current vintage. I'm sure that creative procurement contract can be set up to accomplish the latter.

Thanks for allowing me to comment.

Roy Abreu

**52. Received October 17, 2021**

**Name:** Elaine Hofstetter

**Comment:** Many of us use the library regularly. Please consider a renovation and not another apartment building. With the building taking place near the library now we do not need additional apartments but a better library.  
Thank you for your consideration.

**53. Received October 17, 2021**

**Name:** Janet Chap

**Comment:**

There has been insufficient attention by county officials to community fire and emergency safety given the explosive development along the Connecticut Avenue in Chevy Chase. The Chevy Chase Fire Department is hampered by the already heavy traffic and a northbound lane closure (for the

construction company's convenience) just north of the fire department.

In addition there is ample evidence that public-private partnerships do NOT work well: again, just north of the fire station, the Purple Line overpass sits useless. And we shouldn't forget the fiasco that was the construction of the Silver Spring Metro center.

Quality of life in a community is enhanced by a mix of architecture. The Chevy Chase library should remain a low rise single use building, an oasis in what is about to become a half mile or so of high rise buildings. It was obvious that the county representatives who were present at the meeting at the library on October 16 were trying to convince attendees that the ONLY way to afford a new library was to pursue a public-private construction of a residential building. If that is true, although it is difficult to believe, I would prefer to keep the current library building.

#### **54. Received October 17, 2021**

**Name:** Pat and Lewis Leibowitz

**Comment:** We love the Chevy Chase Library as it is. We can see that some renovations may need to be made. Perhaps this can be gradually done. There are so many adults and children in our community that use this valuable resource. The fact that there is very good parking and handicapped access makes this library even more attractive as it is.

#### **55. Received October 18, 2021**

**Name:** Edith Purdie

**Comment:** I would like a full scale renovation of the existing 16K sq ft library.

I do not want a 20K sq ft library that is mixed use to include residential and other venues.

Thank you.

**56. Received October 18, 2021**

**Name:** Juliana Taymans

**Comment:** The Purple Line development is going to significantly affect traffic. I am greatly concerned about adding additional housing units on Conn. Ave.

**57. Received October 18, 2021**

**Name:** virginia rose ceaser

**Comment:**

We, in Chevy Chase, live in "ground zero" for the massive development taking place within and around our borders. Traffic is already a disaster. No matter how much our citizens mobilize and try to make their voices heard, they are powerless fighting the resources and contacts of developers in Montgomery County.

Our stand-alone library has been a neighborhood gem since it was built, and an oasis for the many senior citizens and young families who live here. The little brick building is charming, unique, and part of our shared history. The above-ground parking lot is inviting, convenient and safe, especially in the evenings. To tear down our library and rebuild it as part of yet another apartment or office building because its easier and more profitable for the County is discouraging and short-sighted. And very sad.

**58. Received October 18, 2021**

<b>Name:</b>	Suellen Keiner
<b>Comment:</b>	<p>I support the refurbishment of the Chevy Chase Library as part of a new residential development on the same property but ONLY if there is sufficient parking for all the residential units along with spaces for library visitors.</p> <p>In addition, the architecture of the new project should be compatible with the style of the nearby buildings, including the fire house, the Chevy Chase Women's Club, and the Christian Science church.</p>

**60. Received October 18, 2021**

<b>Name:</b>	Alan R Chap
<b>Comment:</b>	<p>I oppose the renovation plan for the Chevy Chase Library. I really like the ambiance of a smaller library. i also feel the project will create additional traffic congestion already exacerbated by the Purple Line project Furthermore it will certainly impact the Fire Station and Rescue squad.</p>

**61. Received October 18, 2021**

<b>Name:</b>	Andrew White
<b>Comment:</b>	<p>I think that a Public Private Partnership is premature when a simple rehabilitation of the existing Library is what is needed. Adding residences in a higher rise building will limit parking for the public and increase density and traffic in a mainly residential area. How did the Bethesda Library get renovated without adding residences? Let's do the same for the Chevy Chase Library. There is already enough development going on just north of the library around the proposed purple line station at Chevy Chase Lake.</p>

**62. Received October 19, 2021**

**Name:** sally wechsler

**Comment:** I am in favor of renovation of the chevy chase library –I do not support the private–public option to build a much larger structure. too much new growth is already happening in that area already

**63. Received October 19, 2021**

**Name:** bonnie wicklund

**Comment:** PLEASE do not tear down the Chevy Chase Library! I have lived in the North Chevy Chase neighborhood for more than 40 years and I visit the library weekly. It is such an asset for this community. Moreover, the neighborhood now has two high rise apartment building, and will soon have several more in the Chevy Chase Lake development--enough is enough!

**64. Received October 19, 2021**

**Name:** Deborah Jacobs

**Comment:** I would suggest that the County renovate the library and add an upper floor or two with rental apartments to serve the low to middle–income residents who work in our libraries, schools and other County agencies. Many of these workers cannot afford to live in the County anymore and must commute long distances, contributing to the heavy traffic. I have used this library frequently and have never seen the parking lot even half full, so I don't believe that parking will be an issue.

Anyone living at this location can easily use public transportation.

**65. Received October 19, 2021**

**Name:** Cantor Rochelle Helzner

**Comment:** Until we know the impact of the new residential facilities and transportation development, I would recommend not building more residential housing at this time but to only renovate and update the existing library.

**66. Received October 19, 2021**

**Name:** Susan Hutner

**Comment:** I do not think it is a good idea at this time for the county to pursue a public-private option on the site of the library. There is already a lot of new development occurring in the area and we don't yet know the impact of this development. I would like to see a renovated or new library on the site without any additional development. In addition, if a major new development occurs at the site it will adversely impact parking in the area and reduce easy access to the library.

**67. Received October 19, 2021**

**Name:** Glenda Grogan

**Comment:**

I have been a dedicated patron of MC Public Libraries for 34 years. Although the Silver Spring Library is an impressive building, parking is challenging and is not free. Also, the size and location affect accessibility for those who have limited endurance. Although I live closer to Silver Spring, the Chevy Chase Library has become my home library. The ample, straight-forward parking, friendly and helpful staff, and the ease of use are refreshing and extremely useful in our congested urban area. Please do not turn it into yet another crowded, impersonal, challenging environment to navigate. We need the intimate simplicity and friendly, personalized service that make the Chevy Chase Library so special and appealing. Thank you.

**68. Received October 20, 2021**

**Name:** Loren A Pickrell

**Comment:**

I think the current library should be repaired as needed. There is a great deal of construction on Connecticut Ave. and more will be coming at the 4H Center site. Traffic is a problem as is and further development and increased housing will only make it worse.

**69. Received October 20, 2021**

**Name:** robert shapiro

**Comment:**

I support the idea of revitalizing the library, but I do not support adding either residential or commercial space in that location as well. The area around East-West highway and Connecticut is

already (and increasingly) congested and the upcoming redevelopment of the commercial space into multiple highrise buildings with the Ritz residences and other units will greatly increase congestion in the next year or so. Then there is the new Purple line station which will greatly increase traffic in this area as well. I hope that the county has already studied these impacts on congestion but I am not aware of any public issuance of such studies, or any conclusions that such upcoming developments will not have a material adverse impact on traffic congestion.

I assume there is no plan to increase the traffic lanes on Connecticut Avenue in this or any other area to address the increase in congestion.

**70. Received October 20, 2021**

**Name:** Savita Sharaf

**Comment:** I do not think there should be a public,private partnership to develop the library and have further housing in this area .  
We already have increased traffic with the current development and the effects of the purple line need to be seen .  
The Library should have repairs where needed and maintain it's Current atmosphere .  
Savita Sharaf  
P.S.  
I have been a resident in Chevy Chase for almost 50 years ,my children used the library and I have done so too .



**71. Received October 20, 2021**

**Name:** J. White

**Comment:** Anything more than a general renovation is premature. We need to know more fully how development at the Purple Line and the 4H property will affect traffic and congestion. Do NOT add housing and need for parking to the mix at this point. The current library does a stellar job serving the community.

**72. Received October 21, 2021**

**Name:** Glenn Milano

**Comment:**

I am opposed to the CC Library renovation being done as a public private partnership. It seems to me the desire to do so is coming from the developers because it is a highly desirable location due to the Chevy Chase Lake development and most likely the same developers that are doing that are pushing for this deal.

I am also highly concerned as to why Chevy Chase does or will not receive the funding that other MOCO library reconstruction projects have such as Bethesda and Wheaton or Silver Spring. Why are they afforded an excellent library space that is focused exclusively on the needs of the community that live there whereas Chevy Chase is not given the same?

As others have pointed out, the added traffic, congestion, wear/tear on public spaces, crime and pollution that is being brought in by the CC Lake project is already exceeding our community threshold for development.

I sincerely hope that the county does not ignore the community input (and I should hope the county

will be doing some kind of quantitative analysis of these comments?) and moves forward with the economic interests of the developers over the wishes of the current residents.

### **73. Received October 21, 2021**

**Name:** Cameron Moody

**Comment:** Chevy Chase Library redevelopment allows for additional mixed-use development near a new mass transit system. This area is at the intersection of several major transportation routes and will add to the variety of housing available in the area. This is the ideal location for higher density housing and will add to the vibrancy of Chevy Chase Lake. This will also maximize the use of the location and reduce the underutilized surface parking. The location of the site means there is minimal impact on the single family houses in the Hamlet community.

### **74. Received October 21, 2021**

**Name:** Susan Cutler

**Comment:**

I live behind the Chevy Chase Library. What we need is a functional library, NOT more redevelopment and traffic and an apartment building at the main entrance and exit to our neighborhood. The Chevy Chase Lake redevelopment, the lack of a grocery store and dry cleaners, and the Purple Line construction as well as the traffic prison of Conn. Ave. and East West Hwy and the cut through traffic has put this neighborhood at its limits of quality of living. The County has to put the brakes on this vast amount of redevelopment near me and the Bethesda CBD. These projects have not added to the quality of life for those of us who live here.

#### 75. Received October 25, 2021

**Name:** Mannie Collins

**Comment:** That section of Chevy Chase/Connecticut Avenue is already congested with 2 high-rise apartment buildings and a huge complex under construction at Chevy Chase Lakes. With that in mind, I see no need for yet another mixed use building. The purple line will eventually be there as well creating even more traffic. Keep the library as is – an oasis within all the "complexes." We do not need more of those. I'd rather see the renovations wait a few years in order to get the money than to give in and do a public-private partnership now.

#### 76. Received October 27, 2021

**Name:** Benjamin Bradley

**Comment:**

I strongly support the idea of redeveloping the library and providing affordable housing. Looking at the developer response summary, I think the EYA proposal to add 250 units with 30% MPDUs + 3 bedroom apartments is the most exciting opportunity presented. That would be 70 affordable units and space for families. For this project I think the county should look towards limiting the amount of parking in return for greater affordability. This current proposal includes building 60 spaces for the library and more than 250 for the residences. With access to transit options like the Purple Line, I think limiting parking to develop more affordable housing for folks who would be using public transit is a win win situation.

I think other options in proposals are also exciting, such as building workforce housing for folks like county employees and teachers.

Overall, I support the project, but I would like to see the county use this golden opportunity to develop

housing for people who need it and additionally providing access to amenities they and the community can benefit from (the library, transit, etc).

**77. Received October 27, 2021**

**Name:** Michael Dutka

**Comment:** I'd support a high density housing project at this site. Given the sites proximity to the future purple line and given the high value of housing in Chevy Chase it's clear a large number of people would love to live there. Let's not prevent them from doing so because it would be slightly annoying for the wealthy residents who live nearby.

**78. Received October 27, 2021**

**Name:** Joe Gillespie

**Comment:**

Hello,

This may be a repeat because I believe I already submitted comments but did not see them on the current list of community comments. If so, I apologize.

This area is in dire need of housing, and this presents a wonderful opportunity to develop the area further, especially given how close it will be to a new purple line station once opened. Having housing near or above the library provides another opportunity for people to interact with the library in a meaningful way, and I think developments, like the Rockville library, show how a library can really integrate and serve as a focal point for an area.

My only concern is that traffic on Connecticut Avenue is currently very dangerous for pedestrians,

drivers, and other users, especially children. I hope significant traffic calming measures are put into place on the highway to make life safer for those who live in this area.

Thank you.

**79. Received October 28, 2021**

**Name:** Susan Murray

**Comment:**

Our family uses the library every week. It's the single most important public resource to our family and it is in dire need of investment. The current structure isn't worth renovating – we need to start over and maximize the public space for the benefit of our entire community – to create and feed life long learners.

I advocate for a stand-alone library that can be subsidized by private dollars as they have for this beautiful Hudson Ohio library:

<https://www.hudsonlibrary.org/support-the-library>

Thank you for making our library a beautiful space for all of us!

Susan Murray Erceg